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Structure of Volcanic Mountains; Erosion of Volcanic Mountains; Subterranean Intrusions; and Characteristics of Igneous Rocks.

The careful reader can gain from this first third of the book the principal facts regarding volcanic phenomena, which are illustrated and applied in the later chapters dealing with the General Distribution of the Active and Recently Extinct Volcanoes of North America; Volcanoes of Central America; of Mexico; and of United States and Canada.

The last chapters are devoted to Deposits of Volcanic Dust; Theoretical Considerations; and the Life History of a Volcano.

The general reader will find every chapter full of help and interest, and the teacher will find the whole book a source of reference that should be at hand. Those who may not care to follow the theoretical considerations in a field where so much is still unknown, will find the greater part of the book well worth continuous reading. The last chapter on the Life History of a Volcano appeals to the imagination in a way that is most helpful even to the specialist in geography. Indeed the chapter is an excellent summary of the whole book, written in such a pleasing manner that the facts abide with the reader without difficulty. By comparison the book is, on the whole, not so satisfactory as its predecessors, as the reader feels that it is more of a compilation than the monographs on Lakes and Glaciers.

The typography is clear and pleasing, and the mistakes are few and not serious. The book is very attractive in its general appearance, as well as in its content. The illustrations, which are numerous, deserve more than a word of mention, for they have been carefully selected and very clearly printed. Many of the reproductions are of phenomena not generally illustrated in text-books, and hence are especially serviceable for teachers and students. The price of the book puts it perhaps beyond the reach of the common-school teacher, which is unfortunate. It is a book to which every teacher should have access, and surely should be ranked among the books of the year chosen for a village or any library. R. E. D.

First Book of Physical Geography. By Ralph S. Tarr. The Macmillan Company, 1897, pp. 368.

Prof. Tarr's First Book in Physical Geography resembles very strongly his previous successful book entitled Elementary Physical Geography. The order of treatment is essentially the same, and the amount of attention given to the different chapters varies but very slightly. The First Book, indeed, is so little less simple than its predecessor that one can hardly see any pedagogic reason for its existence.

The book is so inclusive that naturally no very detailed or complete consideration can be given to any one topic. The value of such a book would be much increased were there fewer topics and more consideration of those few. For instance, such a brief review as Prof. Tarr gives of the tides is very inadequate, and tends to give no clear conception of the causes of these great ocean movements. Such a topic should not be introduced if there be any danger of leaving the student befogged in his impressions, or with the feeling that he knows it all.

The maps and illustrations are an improvement over those in the preceding book; are better selected and better executed. There are very few that are clear only to the eye of the learned geographer or geologist. The typography is good and pleasing, and the printer's errors are few. Yet the book shows that its preparation was hasty, and that the author has no clean-cut images of certain topics that he considers. Such an error as that concerning the location of the magnetic pole would seem to show that the author has not outlived the effects of studying Mercator maps before he had gained a globe idea of the world.

The book is attractive and will undoubtedly have a wide circulation. The high-school teacher qualified to use either book will, however, find the Elementary Book more satisfactory in some ways.

The book of questions and suggestions that has just appeared as an addendum to the text is helpful and timely, but it does not make the book complete. We have yet to see the Elementary Physiography that will be elementary in fact as well as in name, and complete and logical as far as it goes. We were disappointed in the book in question not to find it, as had been announced, written for the upper grades of grammar schools. There is still need for such a book along the lines Prof. Tarr has followed, but arranged from the laboratory standpoint. R. E. D.

Die Verwendbarkeit von Luftballons zu Forschungszwecken in unseren Schutzgebieten. Von Otto Baschin, Assistent am Kgl. Preuss. Meteorologischen Institut. (Sonderabdruck aus Nr. 3 der Deutschen Kolonialzeitung, Jahrgang, 1898.)

This paper is an argument for the use of the captive balloon as an aid to exploration, especially in such a land as New Guinea, where navigable rivers offer a means of access to the far interior of the country. The advantage of being able to survey a broad ex-